

Amendments to Claims

Please cancel claims 1-21.

22. (Original) A process for sealing a seam between two sections of sheet material wherein each section has at least one fluoropolymer surface, said process comprising:

forming a band of heat sealable composition comprising a copolymer of tetrafluoroethylene and at least about 15% by weight of a highly fluorinated monomer, said copolymer having a melt viscosity of no greater than about 1000 Pa•S at 372°C and an application temperature of no greater than about 250°C;

positioning said band over said seam between said two sections of sheet material such that said heat sealable composition contacts one fluoropolymer surface of each section;

heating said band to a temperature no greater than 250°C sufficient to seal said seam;

allowing said heat sealable composition to cool.

23. (Original) The process of claim 22 wherein said band is formed by applying said heat sealable composition onto a carrier sheet to form a heat sealable tape.

24. (Original) The process of claim 23 wherein said heating of said band of said heat sealable composition is performed by positioning said tape over said seam and heating said tape.

25. (Original) The process of claim 24 wherein said heating of said tape is performed by contacting the carrier sheet of said tape with a heated element.

26. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~24~~25 further comprising applying pressure with said heated element to said carrier sheet during said heating of said tape.

27. (Original) The process of claim 26 wherein said pressure is no greater than 5 psi.

28. (Original) The process of claim 26 wherein said carrier sheet is removed after allowing said heat sealable composition to cool.

29. (Original) The process of claim 22 wherein said seam formed from said two sections of sheet material is a lap seam.

30. (Original) The process of claim 22 wherein said seam formed from two sections of said sheet material is a butt seam.

31. (New) The process of claim 22 wherein said highly fluorinated monomer is perfluoro(ethyl vinyl ether).